“Our students find it great because they are used to spending hours wading through Google and not finding anything so History Study Centre is like a filter”

Richard Hood
Curriculum manager for A levels
Strode College

Strode College’s Jisc subscription for 2018/19 will be £5,926 plus VAT, 9% of which (£538) covers digital resources, negotiations, resource management, library and discovery tools.

A study by an independent consultant found that if Jisc didn’t exist, Strode College would need to pay £122,300 for these services.
We use the History Study Centre a lot for coursework. Students have to include primary sources, written at the time of the period of history they are writing about, and the History Study Centre is very good for that. The way it is organised into study units means they can cut out everything they don’t want, get straight to the right period of history and then there are links taking them to historians’ journal articles and resources – photographs, that kind of thing. It’s really, really useful.

Our students find it great because they are used to spending hours wading through Google and not finding anything so History Study Centre is like a filter – it takes them straight to the material they need. They know that when they read that article about the Vietnam War it’s going to be relevant because they found it in the Vietnam War study unit. There are going to be quotes they can use and include and evaluate in their coursework. One of the challenges of the internet is that it’s so vast you can spend ages looking for something and still not find it but the History Study Centre increases the chance of them finding what they want.

It’s trustworthy. It’s written by historians. From my point of view as a teacher it means that they are less likely to be quoting stuff from Wikipedia which I’m then going to have to tell them to go away and do again. If the resource wasn’t there I would have to put more time in, going through the internet with them to help them find sources.

Case study
Strode College

The teacher’s story

I’m Richard Hood, curriculum manager for A levels, managing humanities subjects at Strode College in Somerset.